

# STARBLAZER

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 110

20p

IMPRISONED WITHIN A CRYOCELL, THE MOST EVIL BEING  
IN THE GALAXY PLOTTED REVENGE.

## THE TOMB of TARA

# STARBLAZER



IN 2484 TWO VERY ADVANCED CULTURES, THE ALDERBARAN AND THE RIGEL, WERE LOCKED IN A SAVAGE AND UNREMITTING INTERGALACTIC WAR. THE CONFLICT RAGED ALL OVER THE GALAXY DRAGGING IN ALL THE CIVILISATIONS. FINALLY THE COMBINED MIGHT OF THESE WORLDS FINISHED THE WAR. THE GUILTY WERE BROUGHT TO TRIAL, AND THE MOST EVIL, TARA, WAS SEALED IN A LIFECELL.



# THE TOMB OF TARA



THIS STORY STARTS WITH THE FINAL, AWFUL BATTLE  
AS TARA LED HIS ALDERBARAN HORDES AGAINST THE MIGHT OF THE RIGEL.

4  
BUT THE RIGEL BATTLED FIERCELY, UNTIL...



... WITH ONE LAST SALVO, THE ALDERBARAN FORCE AND HOME PLANET, WAS ELIMINATED.



THEY ARE FINISHED,  
GENERAL! THEIR LEADER,  
TARA'S BATTLECRUISER,  
CANNOT ATTACK—HIS SHIP  
IS TOO BADLY DAMAGED.

CONTACT TARA! ORDER  
HIM TO SURRENDER OR  
WE'LL BLOW HIM AND HIS  
CRAFT OUT OF THE  
UNIVERSE!

TARA, LEADER OF THE ALDERBARAN WAS BROUGHT BEFORE THE GRAND COUNCIL FOR TRIAL.

IN THE HISTORY OF OUR UNIVERSE, NO  
BEING HAS BROUGHT SO MUCH  
SUFFERING. YOUR BLOOD LUST HAS  
CAUSED THE SLAUGHTER OF COUNTLESS  
MILLIONS.



STARE IN AWE, YOU SCUM...  
FOR NEXT TIME YOU STARE, WILL  
BE THE LAST THING YOUR DYING  
EYES WILL SEE. THE UNIVERSE IS  
MINE, AND I SHALL ELIMINATE ALL  
THOSE WHO DARE OPPOSE ME.



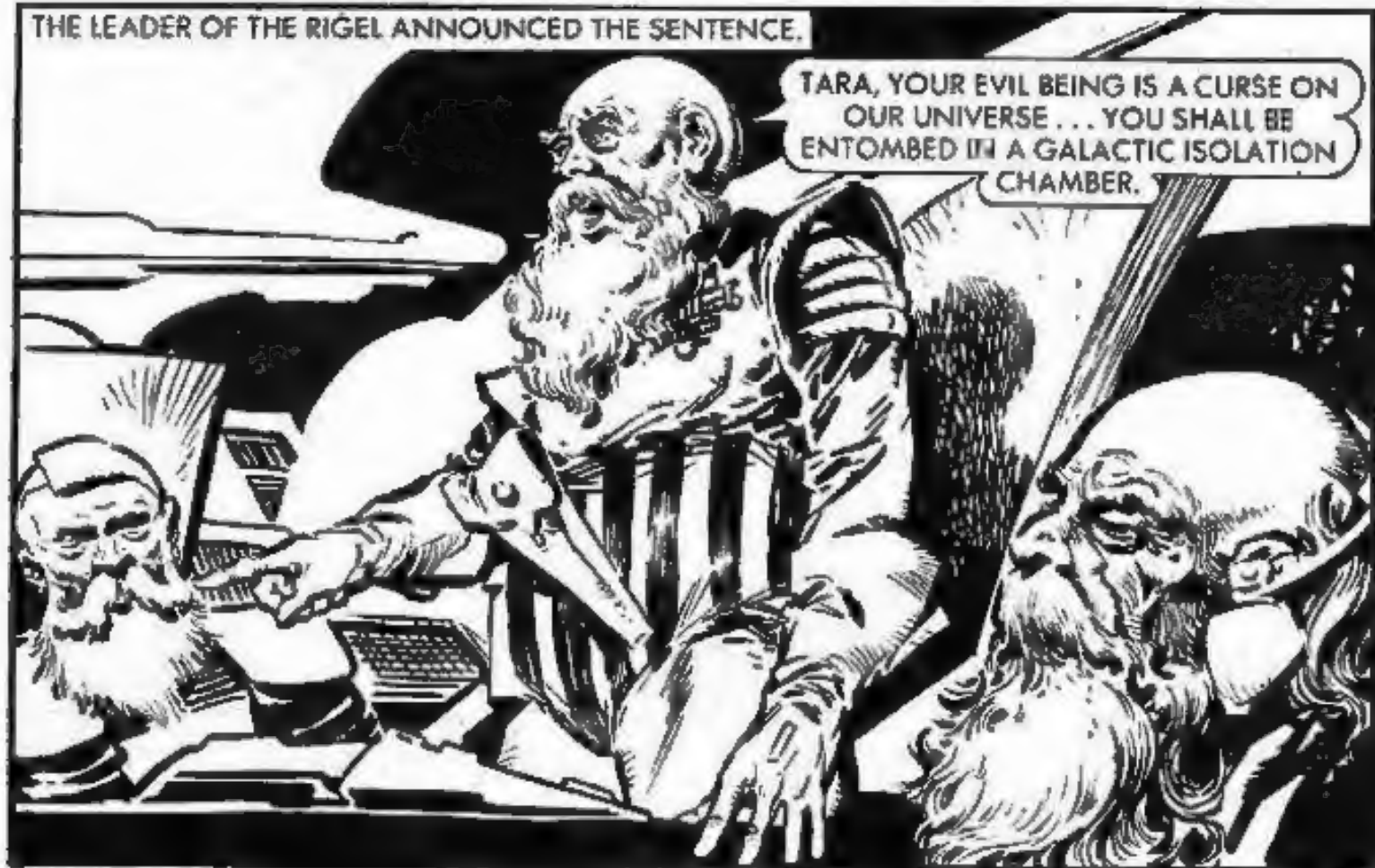


EMPTY THREATS, TARA! YOU  
STAND CONDEMNED BEFORE THIS  
COUNCIL! YOU HAVE NO FORCE  
LEFT.



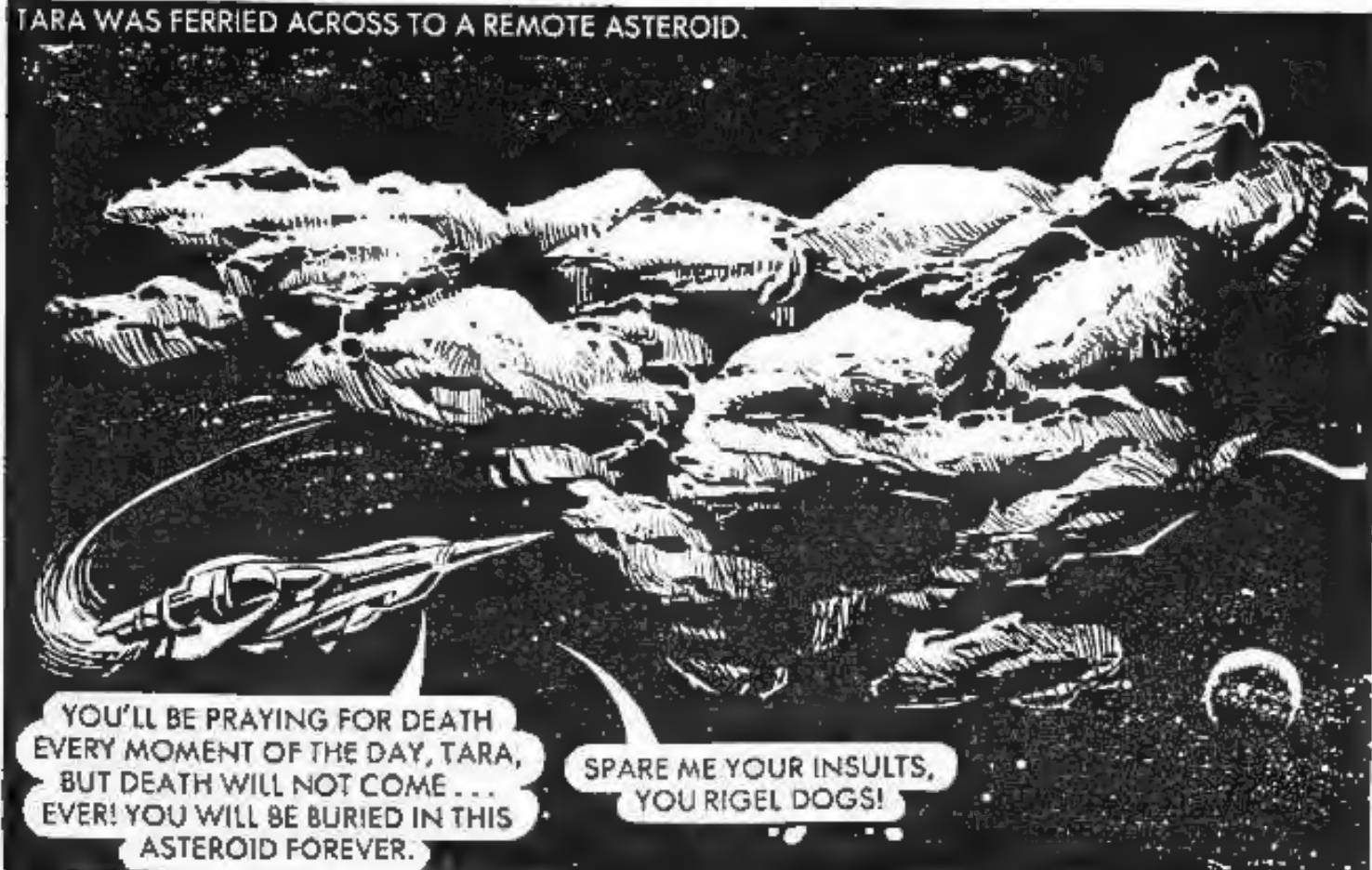
THE LEADER OF THE RIGEL ANNOUNCED THE SENTENCE.

TARA, YOUR EVIL BEING IS A CURSE ON  
OUR UNIVERSE . . . YOU SHALL BE  
ENTOMBED IN A GALACTIC ISOLATION  
CHAMBER.





TARA WAS FERRIED ACROSS TO A REMOTE ASTEROID.



THEY TOOK TARA TO THE GALACTIC ISOLATION CHAMBER, HIS CRYOCELL, TO KEEP HIM ALIVE IN A LIVING HELL.

ONCE YOU ARE LOCKED IN, WE WILL GO. A THOUSAND TONS OF ROCK WILL SEAL YOU IN HERE, TARA.

BUT I SHALL LIVE—MY FINAL ACT HAS SEALED YOUR DEATH WARRANTS.



TARA WAS SEALED WITHIN THE CHAMBER —



HE'S MAD—LOOK, I THINK HE'S LAUGHING!



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BECAUSE THEIR HOME WORLD HAD ALSO BEEN DESTROYED, THE RIGEL SETTLED ON AN EMPTY PLANET, SOL III WHICH WAS RETURNING TO NORMAL AFTER BEING DEVASTATED IN A NUCLEAR CIVIL WAR. THEN TARA'S LAST SURPRISE STRUCK —

GENERAL, OUR SCIENTISTS HAVE DISCOVERED THAT TARA USED G9 DURING THAT LAST BATTLE.

G9... BUT THAT WAS OUTLAWED.

G9 WAS A LIVING ORGANISM... A BACTERIA SO RADIOACTIVE THAT IT KILLED EVEN IN THE SMALLEST DOSES.

THE COMPUTERS CALCULATE THAT LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED OF OUR NUMBER WILL LIVE, GENERAL.

SO OUR VICTORY IS A DEFEAT...






THE COMPUTERS WERE CORRECT. WITHIN A SHORT TIME ONLY ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY MEN AND WOMEN WERE LEFT. AND IN THESE SURVIVORS, MEMORY BEGAN TO DECAY AS THE MONSTROUS EFFECTS OF G9 CONTINUED TO LIVE IN THEM. WITHIN A YEAR THEY HAD FORGOTTEN THEIR JOURNEY, THE GREAT BATTLES WITH TARA. THEY HAD FORGOTTEN, EVEN, THEIR CULTURE, AND BECAME CAVEMEN, HUNTING WITH CRUDE CLUBS ... IN HIS XERXON PRISON, TARA KNEW BY NOW THAT HIS LAST FIENDISH GAMBIT MUST HAVE WIPED OUT MOST OF THE HATED RIGEL.


TIME PASSED — EARTH DEVELOPED SLOWLY, BUT EVENTUALLY CONQUERED SPACE AND COMMUNICATED WITH OTHER SPECIES. IN 2800 AD A YOUNG SPACE PILOT NAMED ROD FOUND HIMSELF STANDING BEFORE A COURT MARTIAL ...





THE DEWAR CRYSTAL WAS IN YOUR CARE! IT WAS TAKEN FROM ITS HOUSING, WE SAY BY YOU, AND SOLD TO THE TRIGIANS. PROOF? A DEPOSIT OF TRIGIAN CREDITS IN YOUR NAME ON THE BANKING PLANET OF JALI. A TRIGIAN INFORMANT REVEALED TO US THAT YOU WERE THE MAN WHO SOLD IT. WHAT FURTHER PROOF IS NECESSARY?

THE DEWAR CRYSTAL WAS A PRISM USED AS A POWER SOURCE, AND NAMED AFTER ITS INVENTOR.



ROD'S ONLY CRIME WAS TRUSTING A MAN NAMED BARTIK. BARTIK WAS A FRIEND TO NO MAN. HE LIVED BY STEALING AND SELLING SECRETS. BUT HE WAS CLEVER, NEVER LEAVING TRACKS.

DO YOU REALLY THINK I WOULD USE MY OWN NAME IN A TRANSACTION SUCH AS THIS?



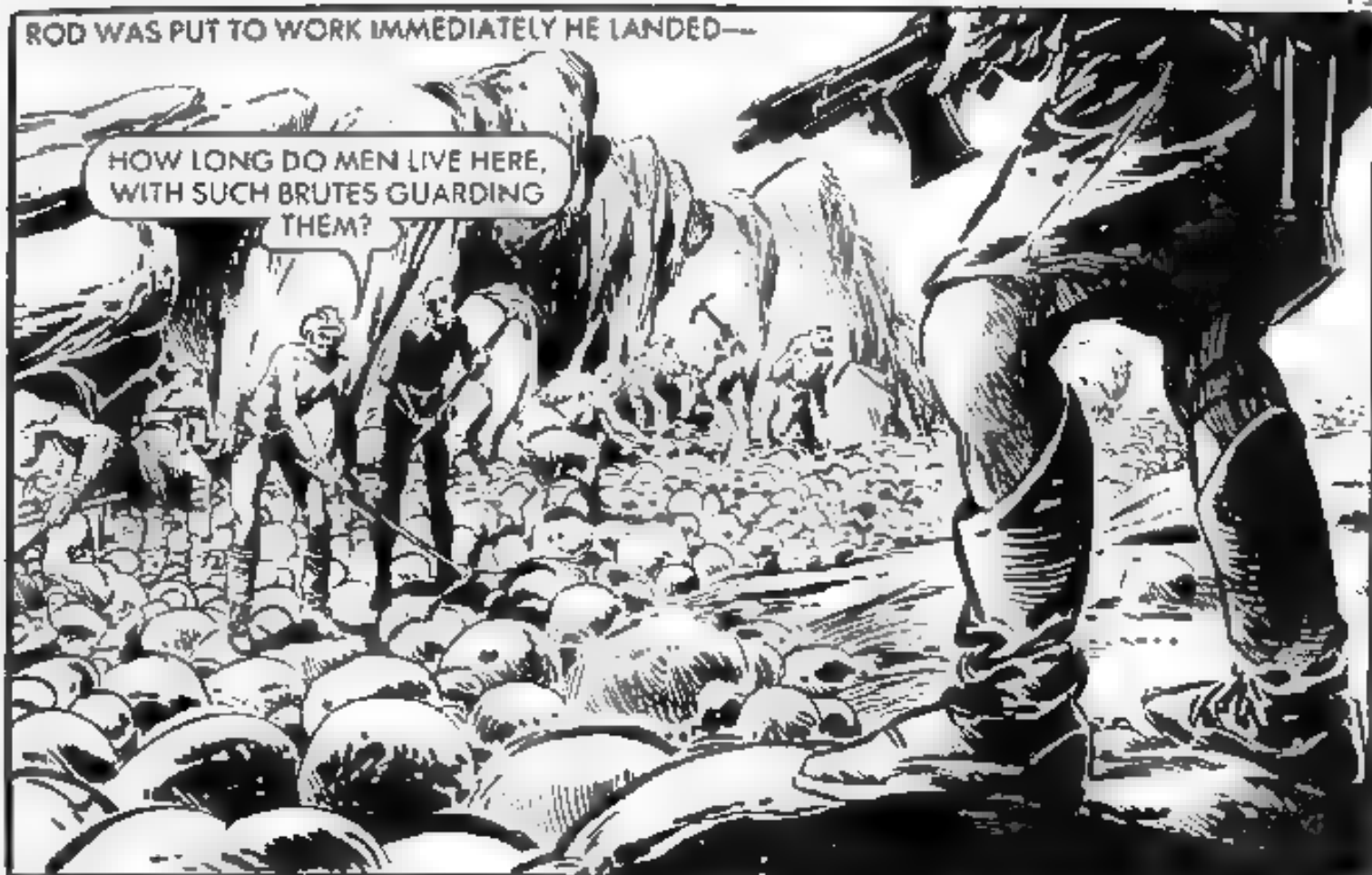


LATER, ON THE PRISON SHIP HEADED FOR THE PENAL COLONY OF GOG —  
A PLACE OF SAVAGE HEAT AND ALMOST  
MOLTEN ROCK.



ROD WAS PUT TO WORK IMMEDIATELY HE LANDED—

HOW LONG DO MEN LIVE HERE,  
WITH SUCH BRUTES GUARDING  
THEM?



HIS COMPANION WAS A MAN FROM A PLANET WAY OUT OF EARTH'S SYSTEM. ROD COULD NOT PRONOUNCE HIS NAME, SO CALLED HIM HANK.

EARTHMEN? NOT LONG! BUT MEN  
LIKE ME FROM SILICA LAST FOR  
EVER



BENEATH HIS TIGHT-FITTING BLACK COSTUME,  
HANK'S BODY WAS MADE OF SILICON—TOTALLY IMPERVIOUS TO HEAT.



ON MY HOME PLANET, THE  
TEMPERATURE IS A HUNDRED  
TIMES HIGHER THAN THIS. HEAT  
AND COLD ... SAME THING  
TO ME.

THEN YOU'RE LUCKY!

NO TALKING!  
JUST WORK!

THE GUARD STRUCK ROD WITH A FLAIL THAT SENT NEEDLES OF PAIN THROUGH EVERY NERVE  
IN HIS BODY.

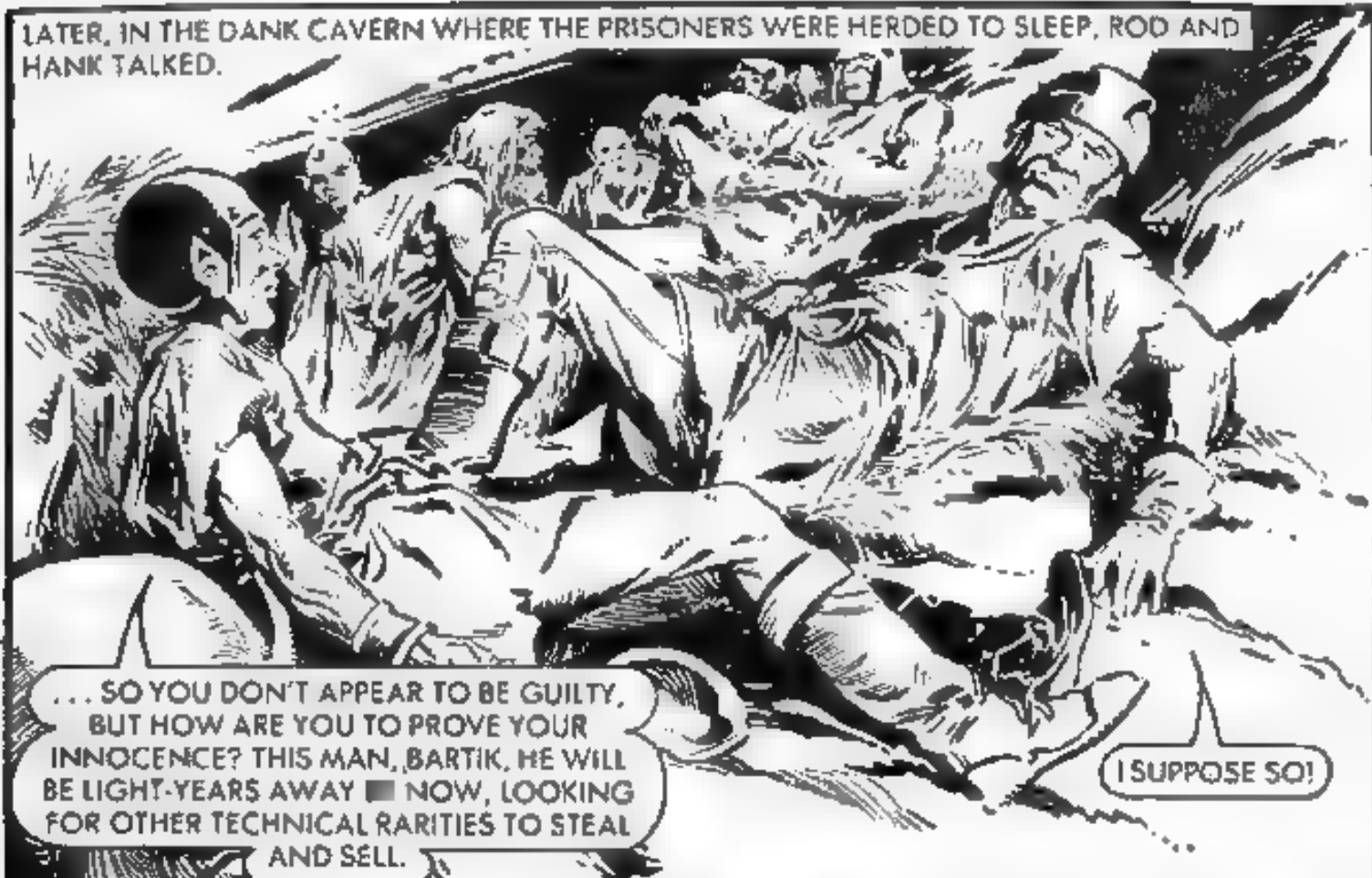


YOU NEWCOMERS ALL THINK YOU'VE  
COME ON SOME HOLIDAY. WELL,  
YOU SOON LEARN DIFFERENT!

DO NOT RESIST HIM, IT WILL ONLY  
BE WORSE. WORK ON, MY FRIEND.



LATER, IN THE DANK CAVERN WHERE THE PRISONERS WERE HERDED TO SLEEP, ROD AND HANK TALKED.



... SO YOU DON'T APPEAR TO BE GUILTY, BUT HOW ARE YOU TO PROVE YOUR INNOCENCE? THIS MAN, BARTIK, HE WILL BE LIGHT-YEARS AWAY ■ NOW, LOOKING FOR OTHER TECHNICAL RARITIES TO STEAL AND SELL.

I SUPPOSE SO!




I HAVE TO GET AWAY.


NO MAN HAS EVER ESCAPED FROM GOG.

EVERY CONVICT LABOURED TO EXTRACT THE VITAL ORES FROM THE SHARP ROCKS AS LONG AS HE LIVED — WHICH WASN'T VERY LONG.

WHY ARE YOU  
HERE, HANK?



GOG IS A PENAL PLANET FOR ALL THE GALAXY—PEOPLE FROM MY WORLD DO NOT HAVE TO COMMIT CRIMES TO BE MADE INTO PRISONERS. WE ARE STRANGE . . . MADE OF SILICON . . . FREAKS . . . BESIDES, WE ARE GOOD WORKERS FOR THIS CLIMATE SINCE WE CANNOT FEEL HEAT. WE LIVE LONG . . . PRODUCE A LOT.




CLOSE TO THE GLITTERING LIGHTS OF THE PENAL COLONY . . .

VIBRATIONS . . . SOMETHING IS  
MOVING OUT THERE! HAS MY HOUR  
COME AT LAST?



THE PENAL COLONY WAS ON TARA'S ASTEROID TOMB.

I FEEL THAT MEN ARE NEARBY. I  
FEEL IT! A LITTLE TIME LONGER!  
PATIENCE!





MEANWHILE, IN DEEP SPACE, TRIGIANS, JEALOUS OF EARTH ADVANCEMENT, BEGAN THE FIRST PHASE OF REDRESSING THE IMBALANCE.

THREE EARTH DAYS TO GOG.

THEN WE ATTACK! MAKE SURE MY BROTHER IS FREED BEFORE YOU DESTROY THAT STINKING PRISON.



THE TRIGIANS WERE A WARRIOR RACE, HUGE MEN, WHO LIVED ONLY FOR WAR AND CONQUEST. THEIR LEADER'S BROTHER HAD BEEN TAKEN BY SPACE PATROL AND WAS IMPRISONED ON GOG.



BRING THE EARTH MAN TO ME WHILE WE WAIT, I HAVE QUESTIONS TO ASK HIM.

AT ONCE, LORD.

THE EARTHMAN WAS SUMMONED —



ONCE WE HAVE CRUSHED GOG AND RELEASED MY BROTHER, WE WILL OBTAIN THE SUPPLIES OF RITANIUM YOU PROMISED US. THE DEWAR CRYSTAL YOU BROUGHT US IS EXCELLENT, BUT NEEDS CONSTANT FEEDING WITH RITANIUM TO PERFORM AT ITS PEAK EFFICIENCY!



HAVE I EVER LET YOU DOWN? ONCE YOUR BROTHER ■ WITH YOU, WE MAKE FOR THAT ASTEROID BELT IN SECTOR 12. I HAVE FRIENDS IN THE MINING OPERATION, IT WILL BE EASY TO TAKE THEIR SUPPLIES. WE AGREED ON A PRICE DID WE NOT?

THREE EARTH DAYS LATER, THE TRIGIANS LAUNCHED A FIERCE ATTACK ON THE ASTEROID —



A HAIL OF LIGHT ENERGY WASHED OVER THE PENAL COLONY —



ROD AND THE OTHERS REELED AS THE EXPLOSIONS SHOOK THE ASTEROID'S STRUCTURE —





THE TRIGIAN FORCES LANDED —

SPLIT UP, CONVERGE ON BLOCK C!  
KILL ALL OPPOSITION.



ONE SHATTERING CONCUSSION SPLIT THE ROCK WALL OF THE PRISON CELL.

C'MON, HANK!



THE TRIGIANS SOON COMPLETED THEIR MISSION —

WE HAVE OUR MAN —  
BACK TO THE SHIPS.



AS THE TRIGIANS BLASTED OFF FOR THE FLAGSHIP —

WE'VE ESCAPED!

BUT TO WHERE?





WE'LL FIND SOMETHING! I RECKON  
WE SHOULD HIDE IN THE HIGH  
GROUND. WHEN NEWS OF THIS  
ATTACK GETS OUT THERE'LL ■ A  
DOZEN SHIPS FLYING IN. MAYBE WE  
CAN GRAB ONE OF THOSE.

BUT ROD HAD NOT RECKONED ON THE TRIGIAN'S RUTHLESSNESS—



DESTROY THAT ASTEROID.



ON THE ASTEROID —

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

JUDGING BY THEIR CRAFT ... TRIGIANS  
... RUTHLESS KILLERS.



AN EXPLOSION THREW THEM TO THE GROUND—



BUT THE EXPLOSION HAD SPLIT OPEN THE MOUNTAIN SIDE, RIPPING TARA'S XERXON TOMB APART, FOR ITS POWER TO WITHSTAND ANYTHING HAD WEAKENED OVER THE CENTURIES.

FREE ... AT LAST.

FREE! I SHALL SEEK REVENGE! I WILL BE REPAID IN FULL.

WE'RE STILL ALIVE.

MORE OR LESS IN ONE PIECE. YOU SEE WE HAVE COMPANY?



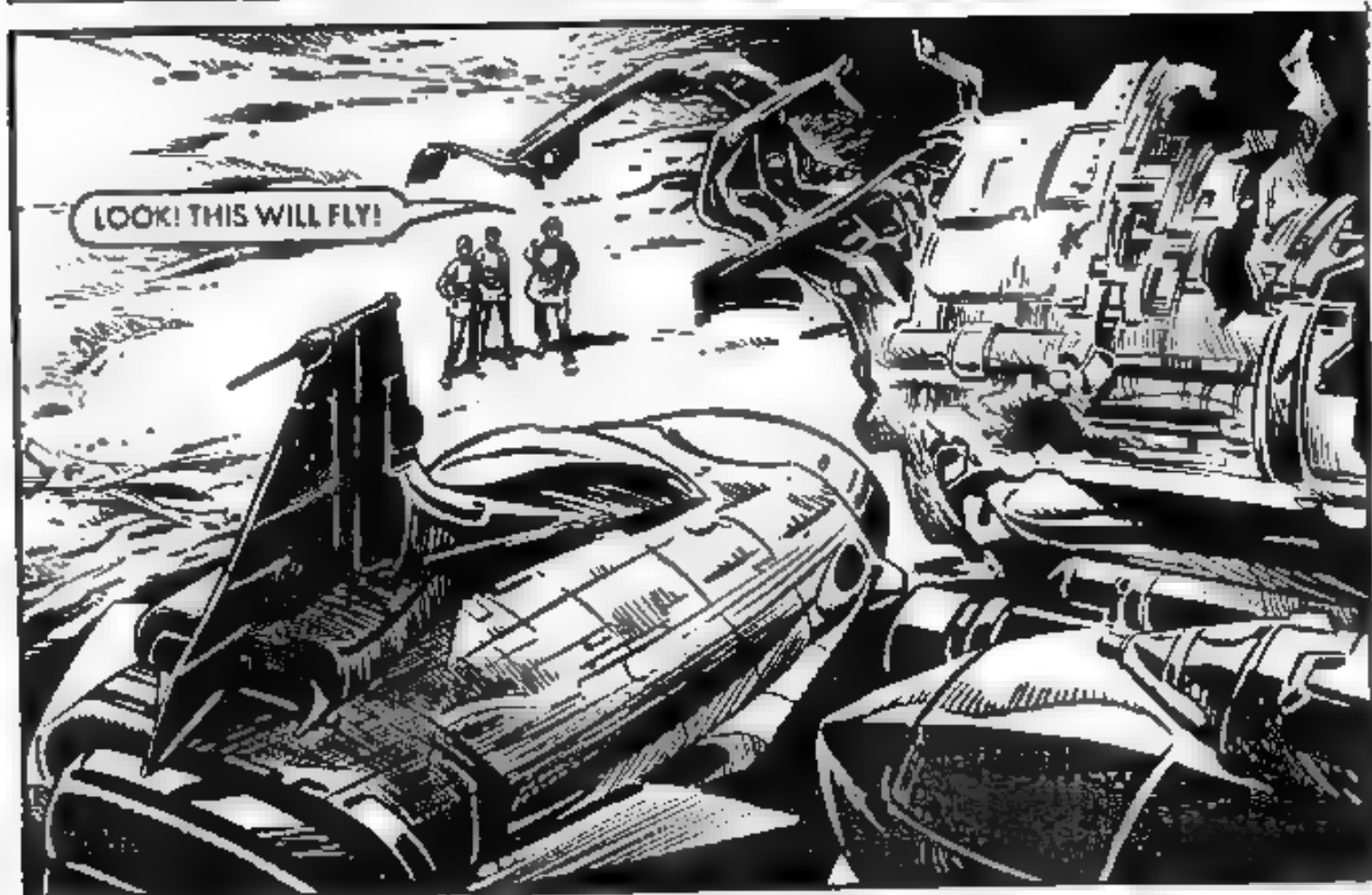


ALL WE'VE GOT TO DO NOW IS FIND  
SOME SORT OF SHIP TO GET US BACK  
TO EARTH. MUST BE SOMETHING LEFT  
IN ONE PIECE AROUND HERE.

EARTH!! REVENGE  
SHALL BE MINE!



SO THESE MEN ARE DESCENDANTS OF THE  
RIGEL ... THE SCUM WHO  
IMPRISONED ME.



THEY CLIMBED ABOARD—

PRIMITIVE!

WHAT? IT'S ONE OF  
THE MOST RECENT STARCRAFT.



AH, YES... A  
COMPUTER.

WHICH IS YOUR  
HOME PLANET?





MY HOME PLANET? ONE YOU HAVE NEVER HEARD OF . . . FAR FROM HERE. AS A RACE WE ARE SIMILAR TO EARTH-PEOPLE. NOW, LET ME CONCENTRATE ON THIS COMPUTER.



THEY MUST BE VERY BACKWARD—THIS COMPUTER IS LIKE A CHILD'S TOY, BUT IT WILL DO. THESE MEN ARE SUSPICIOUS OF ME . . . THEY SEEM TO WANT ME TO BE FRIENDLY . . . SO I WILL BE. FOR A TIME!





ROD EXPLAINED HIS BACKGROUND—

... SO I'VE GOT TO FIND BARTIK, WRING A  
CONFESSION OUT OF HIM BEFORE I CAN  
GET MY GOOD NAME RESTORED.

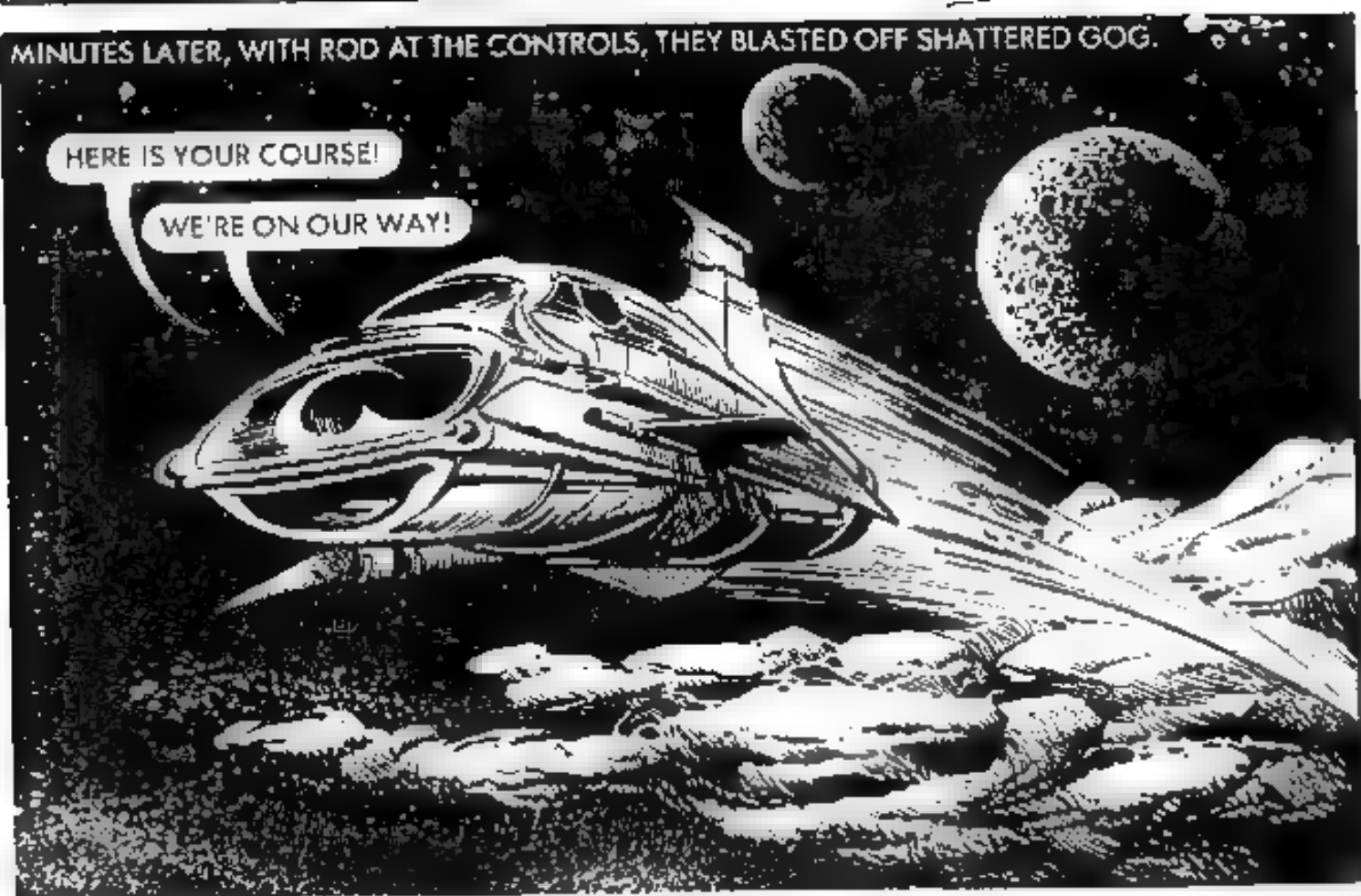
THEN, I, TARA CAN HELP YOU. I HAVE  
MANY CONTACTS SPREAD THROUGH  
MANY PLANETS. FLY US TO MY  
SUPPLIES, REST A WHILE, THEN  
TOGETHER WE CAN FIND THIS VILE  
MAN YOU SEEK. YES?



MINUTES LATER, WITH ROD AT THE CONTROLS, THEY BLASTED OFF SHATTERED GOG.

HERE IS YOUR COURSE!

WE'RE ON OUR WAY!







YES, ON OUR WAY! TO A SECRET PLACE WHERE I ONCE STORED A GOOD SUPPLY OF ARMS, SHIPS, ROBOTS. THEY WILL BE INTACT . . . AND, JUDGING BY THIS CRAFT, LIGHT YEARS AHEAD OF ANYTHING THEY'RE USING IN THIS SECTOR OF THE UNIVERSE.

MEANTIME, THE TRIGIANS, ADVISED BY BARTIK, HAD LANDED ON THE ASTEROID BELT WHICH MINED THE RARE RITANIUM. THE MINE MANAGER, BEFRIENDED BY BARTIK, FOUND OUT TOO LATE THAT HE HAD BEEN BETRAYED.



I AM ALWAYS SURPRISED WHEN THEY TRUST ME SO EASILY!

I WILL ALWAYS MAKE SURE THAT I DO NOT TURN MY BACK ON YOU, BARTIK! STANDING NEXT TO YOU MAKES MY FLESH CREEP. BUT I KEEP MY WORD. YOU WILL ■■■ WELL PAID FOR THIS RITANIUM.



THE TRIGIAN FLAGSHIP MOVED AWAY FULLY LOADED FROM THE MINE ASTEROIDS.

SET A COURSE FOR EARTH, AND INSTRUCT BARTIK IN THE USE OF THE ESCAPE POD . . . HE CAN LAND ON EARTH IN THAT.

SEVERAL SPACIALS LATER THE ESCAPERS FROM THE ASTEROID NEARED TARA'S CO-ORDINATES—

THERE'S THE PLANET.

SET THE CRAFT DOWN  
AT 072A270.

THE CRAFT TOUCHED DOWN, AND THE THREE DISEMBARKED—

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE PLACE?  
IT HAS AN EVIL FEEL.

THIS IS THE PLACE!

HIDDEN IN A CREVICE IS A  
MOLECULAR DISRUPTOR...



... WHICH WILL ALLOW US TO PASS  
THROUGH SOLID ROCK.



BUT HOW? AND  
WHY HERE?





THE ROCK DISINTEGRATED TO  
REVEAL AN AMAZING SIGHT—



JOE: WHAT THE—

... NOW YOUR USEFULNESS  
IS FINISHED.

WHAT? WHO  
ARE YOU?





YOU'RE DESCENDANTS OF MY  
ENEMIES... THAT IS  
ENOUGH! YOU WILL TRAVEL  
WITH ME. I WANT YOU TO  
WITNESS THE END OF EARTH  
BEFORE YOU, TOO, DIE!

WHAT ARE THOSE  
CREATURES?

KANGS... A PREDATORY  
FLYING BIPED.

WITH ONE BURST OF ENERGY FROM TARA'S BLASTER THE GIANT CREATURE VANISHED.



HE'S VAPOURISED IT!





ONE BY ONE, TARA DISINTEGRATED THE KANGS —



THE LAST ONE! I OWN AN  
ARMOURY THAT YOU PRIMITIVES  
CANNOT EVEN IMAGINE!

ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP US  
PINNED IN THIS THING FOREVER?

UNTIL I AM READY TO  
RELEASE YOU! I MUST  
ACTIVATE MY ARMY.  
THEN WE WILL HEAD  
FOR EARTH.



WHAT CAN WE DO? THAT MADMAN  
IS LIGHT-YEARS AHEAD OF US.  
EARTH DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE  
AGAINST HIS WEAPONS.

THAT'S TRUE. BUT I AM  
THINKING... AFTER EARTH?  
WHERE WILL HE STRIKE? THE  
WHOLE UNIVERSE IS RIPE FOR  
HIS TAKING.

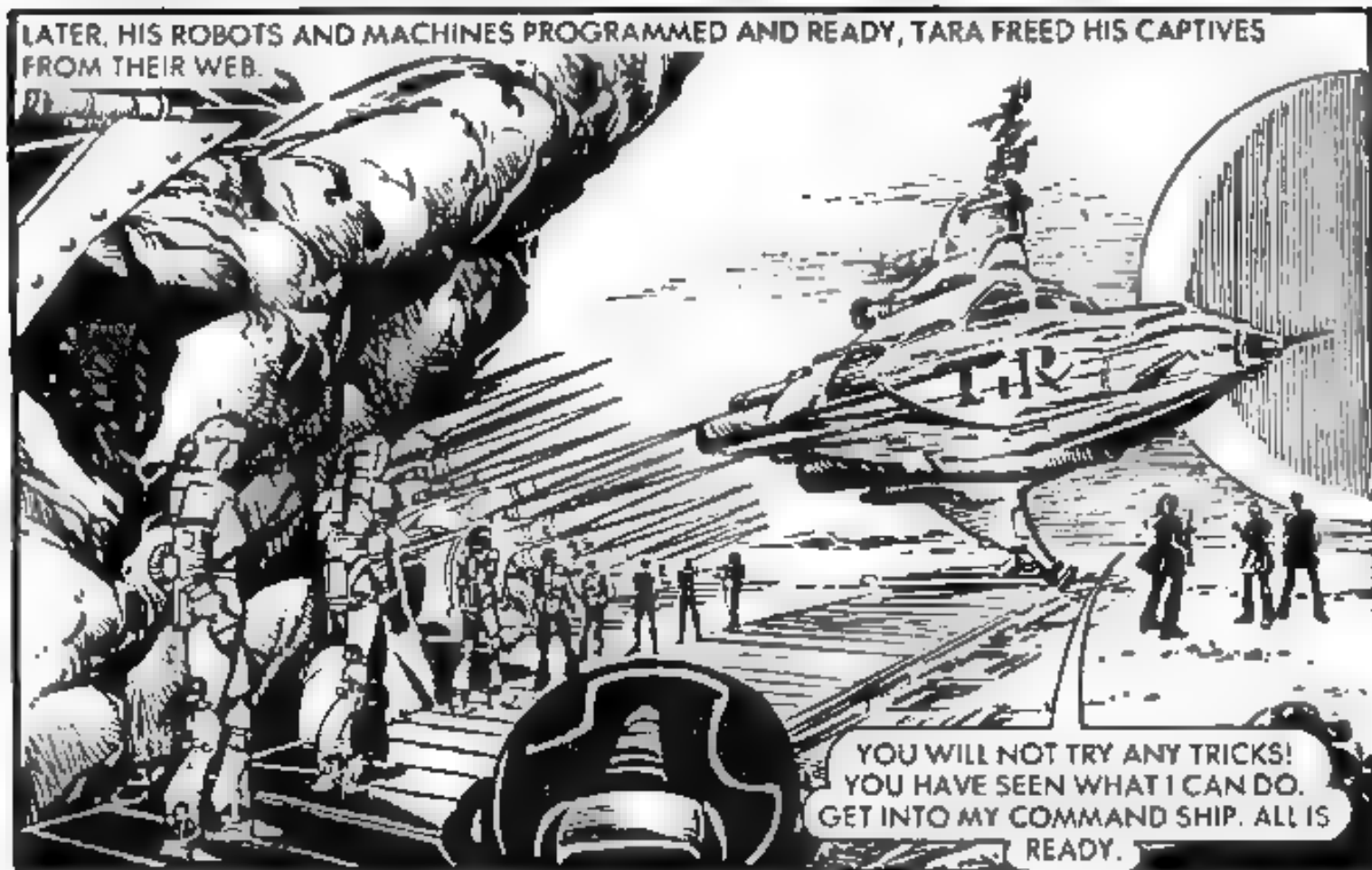


NOTHING CAN STOP HIM.

BUT WE'VE GOT TO COME UP  
WITH SOMETHING!

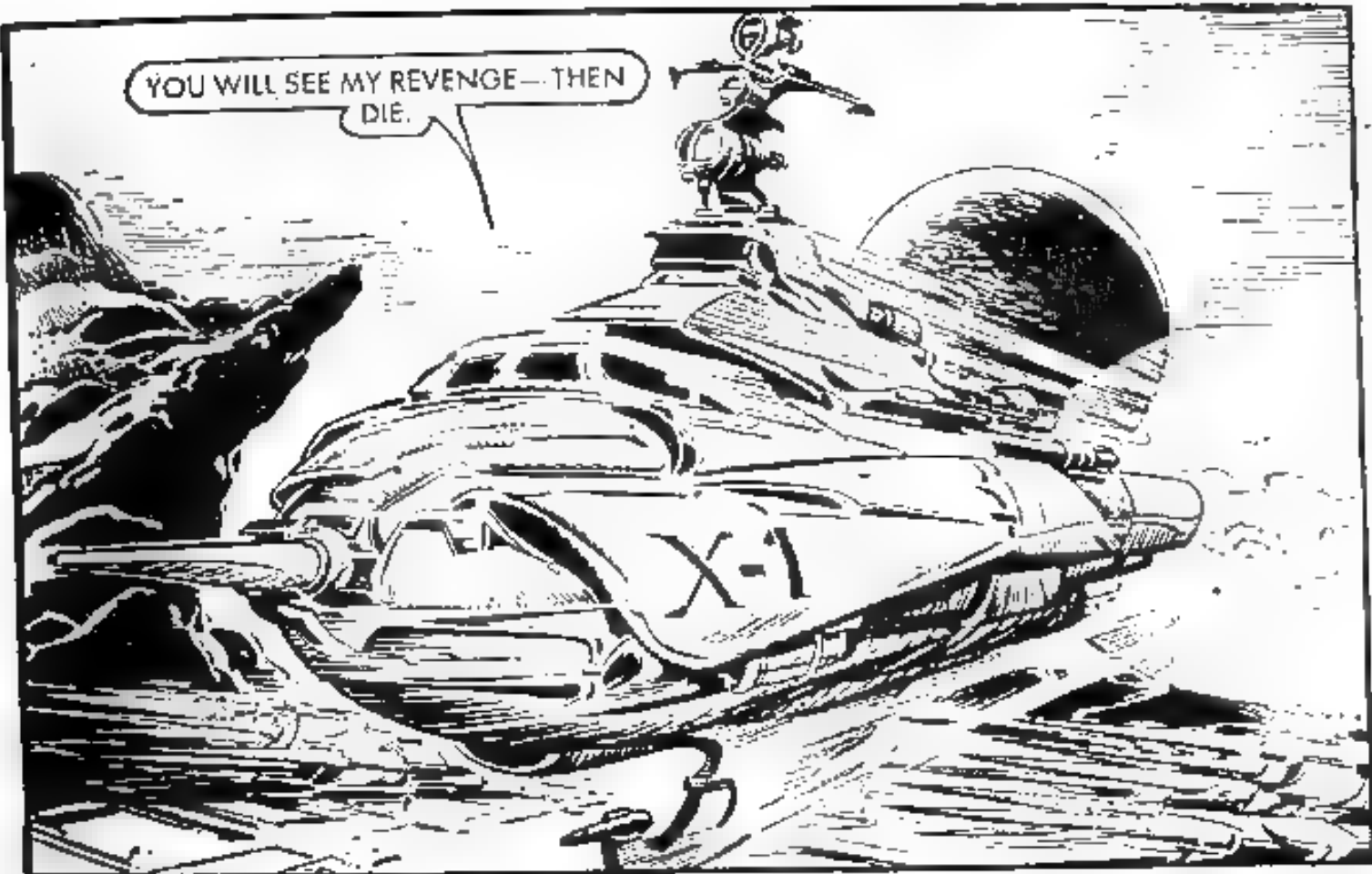


LATER, HIS ROBOTS AND MACHINES PROGRAMMED AND READY, TARA FREED HIS CAPTIVES  
FROM THEIR WEB.



YOU WILL NOT TRY ANY TRICKS!  
YOU HAVE SEEN WHAT I CAN DO.  
GET INTO MY COMMAND SHIP. ALL IS  
READY.

YOU WILL SEE MY REVENGE— THEN  
DIE.



TARA'S CRAFT WARPED AWAY AT LIGHT SPEED—

ALTHOUGH MY SHIP IS  
MANY EONS OLD, IT IS STILL  
MORE ADVANCED THAN  
YOUR PLANET'S CRAFT.



ROD AND HANK WERE HELD BY MAGNETIC PINIONS, AS HELPLESS AS THEY HAD BEEN WHEN TRAPPED IN THE MONSTROUS WEB.

I WILL CALL EARTH, TELL THEM WHAT LIES IN STORE FOR THEM. THEY WILL SCURRY ABOUT LIKE ANTS! DOING WHAT? READING THEIR PUNY DEFENCES, BUT TO NO AVAIL.



TARA CONTACTED EARTH—

... IF THERE ARE ANY WHO HAVE A MEMORY OF THOSE OLD BATTLES, LET HIM KNOW THIS IS TARA WHO COMES! YES, TARA! HEAR THE NAME AND TREMBLE! AS YOUR ANCESTORS DID! AND WHEN I PERMIT YOU TO LOOK INTO MY FACE, YOU WILL KNOW THE INSTANT OF YOUR DEATH HAS COME!





WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW, DO YOU THINK? PANIC . . . FEAR!

YOUR SPEED WILL BE COMPUTED—THEY WILL KNOW YOU ARE MORE ADVANCED. THEY WILL BE SCARED, TARA. SO ENJOY IT . . . IF YOU REALLY THINK THAT DESTROYING MILLIONS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE IS NECESSARY TO YOUR JOY.



IT IS A JOY, EARTH-MAN! YOU CANNOT UNDERSTAND, FOR YOU DID NOT SPEND CENTURIES IN A COFFIN HOPING FOR A CHANCE OF REVENGE.



MEANTIME, THE TRIGIAN FLAGSHIP HAD PICKED UP TARA'S MESSAGE TO EARTH, FOR IT TOO, WAS BOUND FOR THE SAME PLANET.

MARK THE SPEED OF THOSE SHIPS! IT IS EVEN BEYOND THE POWER OF OUR COMPUTERS TO CALCULATE!

WHERE ARE THEY FROM?



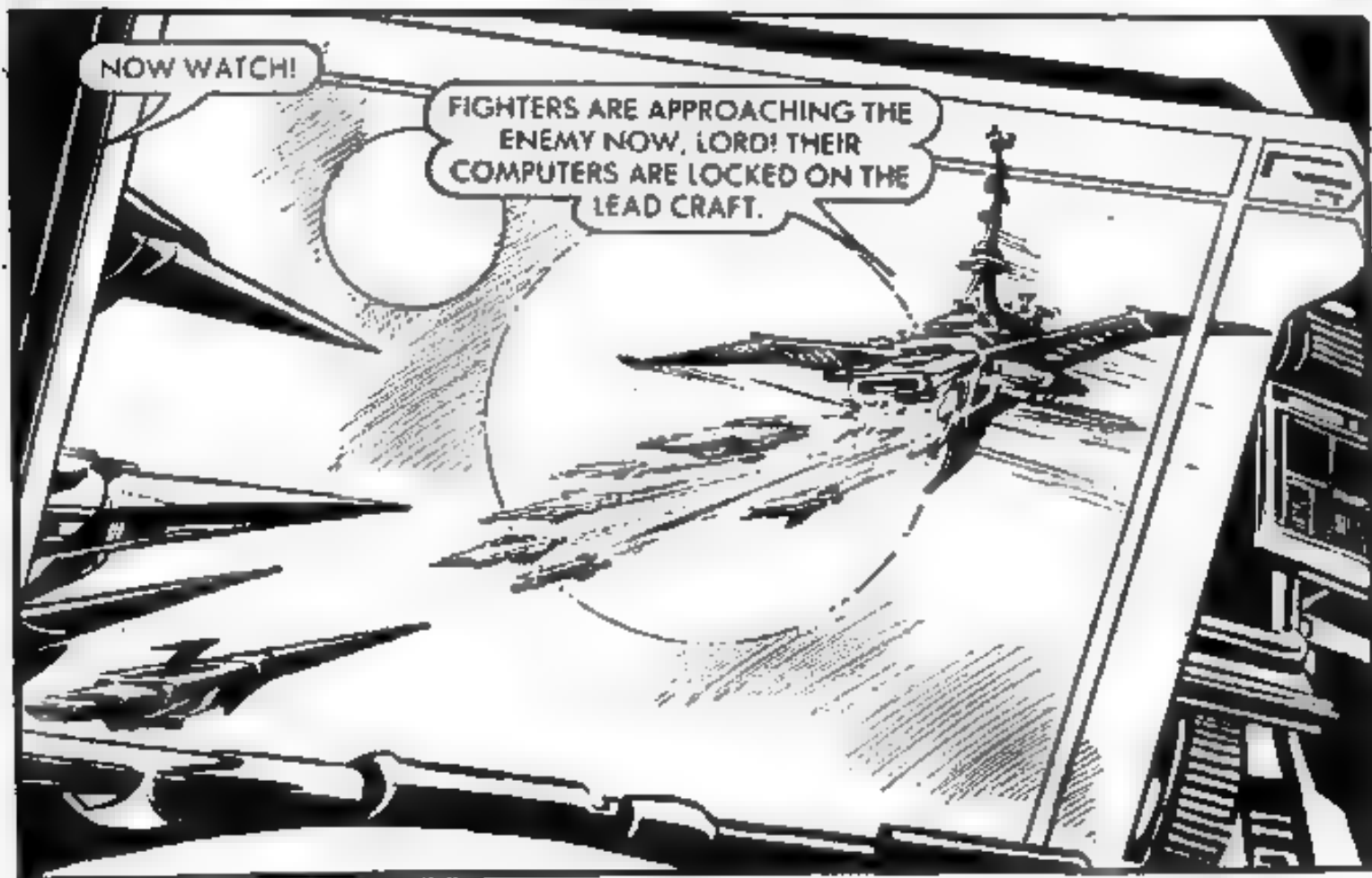
TARA'S SENSORS PROBED DEEP INTO THE TRIGIAN VESSEL, REPORTING BACK ITS ARMAMENTS AND STRENGTH

WATCH NOW! I WANT YOU TO SEE THIS! A TRIGIAN FLAGSHIP IS ATTACKING US.




NOW WATCH!

FIGHTERS ARE APPROACHING THE ENEMY NOW, LORD! THEIR COMPUTERS ARE LOCKED ON THE LEAD CRAFT.



THE FIRST SALVO WAS FIRED BY THE TRIGIAN FIGHTERS . . .

MISSILES  
FIRED!

A large, dark, angular Trigan fighter ship is shown from a high angle, firing a salvo of missiles towards a city below. The city is depicted with a grid-like street pattern and several buildings. A bright explosion is visible on the ground where the missiles have landed. The scene is rendered in a high-contrast, black and white comic book style.

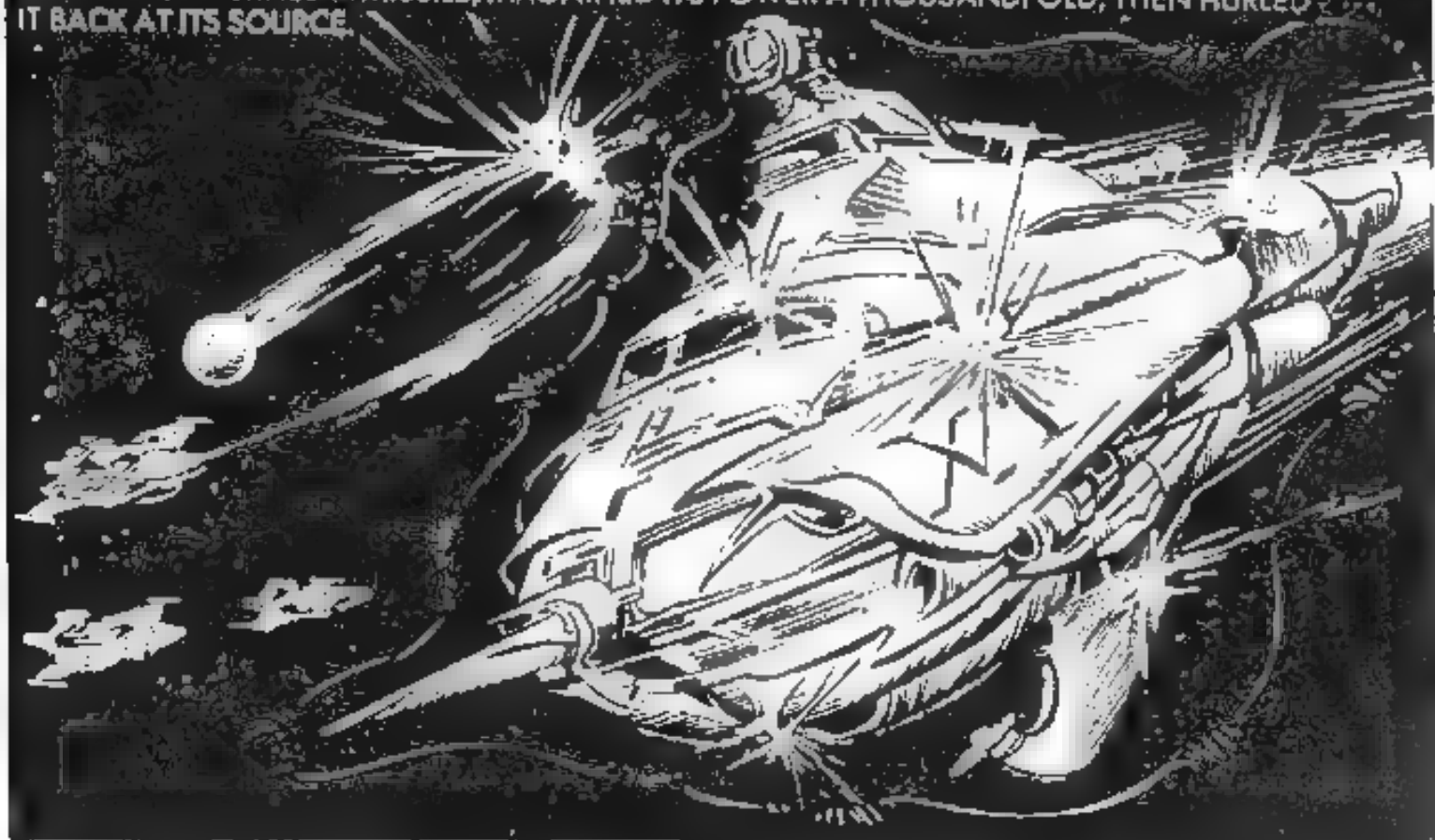
TARA RETALIATED—

A close-up of Tara, a woman with a beard and a helmet, sitting in a cockpit. She is looking out the window with a determined expression. A missile is visible in the air outside the cockpit. The cockpit is filled with various controls and instruments. The scene is rendered in a high-contrast, black and white comic book style.

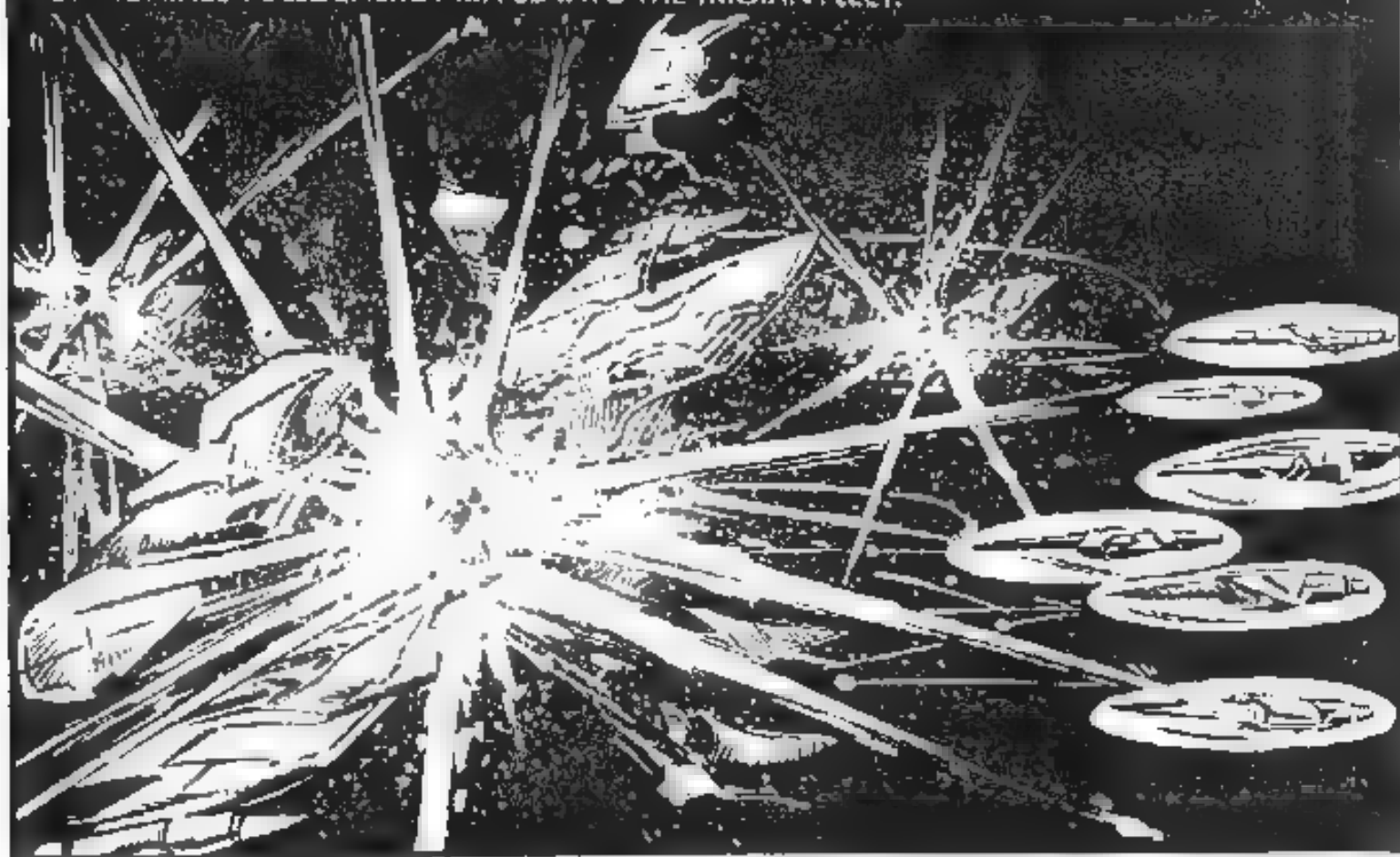
PUNY PULSE MISSILES . . .



TARA'S SHIP WAS SUDDENLY ENCASED IN A MAGNADEFLECTOR—A SHIMMERING PHOTON DEVICE THAT TURNED A MISSILE, MAGNIFIED ITS POWER A THOUSANDFOLD, THEN HURLED IT BACK AT ITS SOURCE.



THE MAGNIFIED PULSE ENERGY RIPPED INTO THE TRIGIAN FLEET.



THE TRIGIAN LEADER WATCHED HORRIFIED AS HIS MAIN FORCE WAS OBLITERATED.



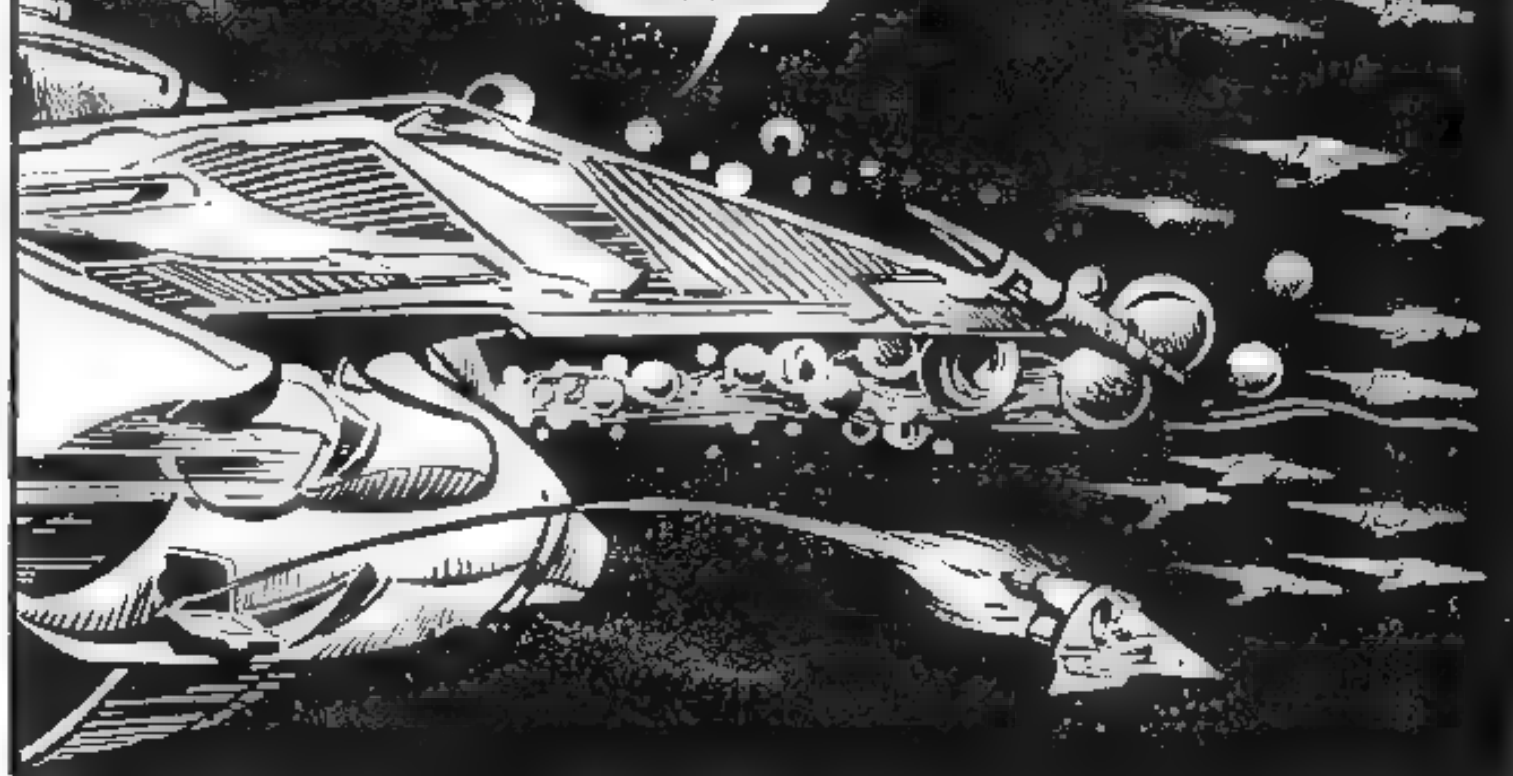
ON BOARD BARTIK RACED FOR HIS LIFE—

WHO CAN THAT ATTACKING FORCE  
BE? NEVER SEEN POWER LIKE IT!



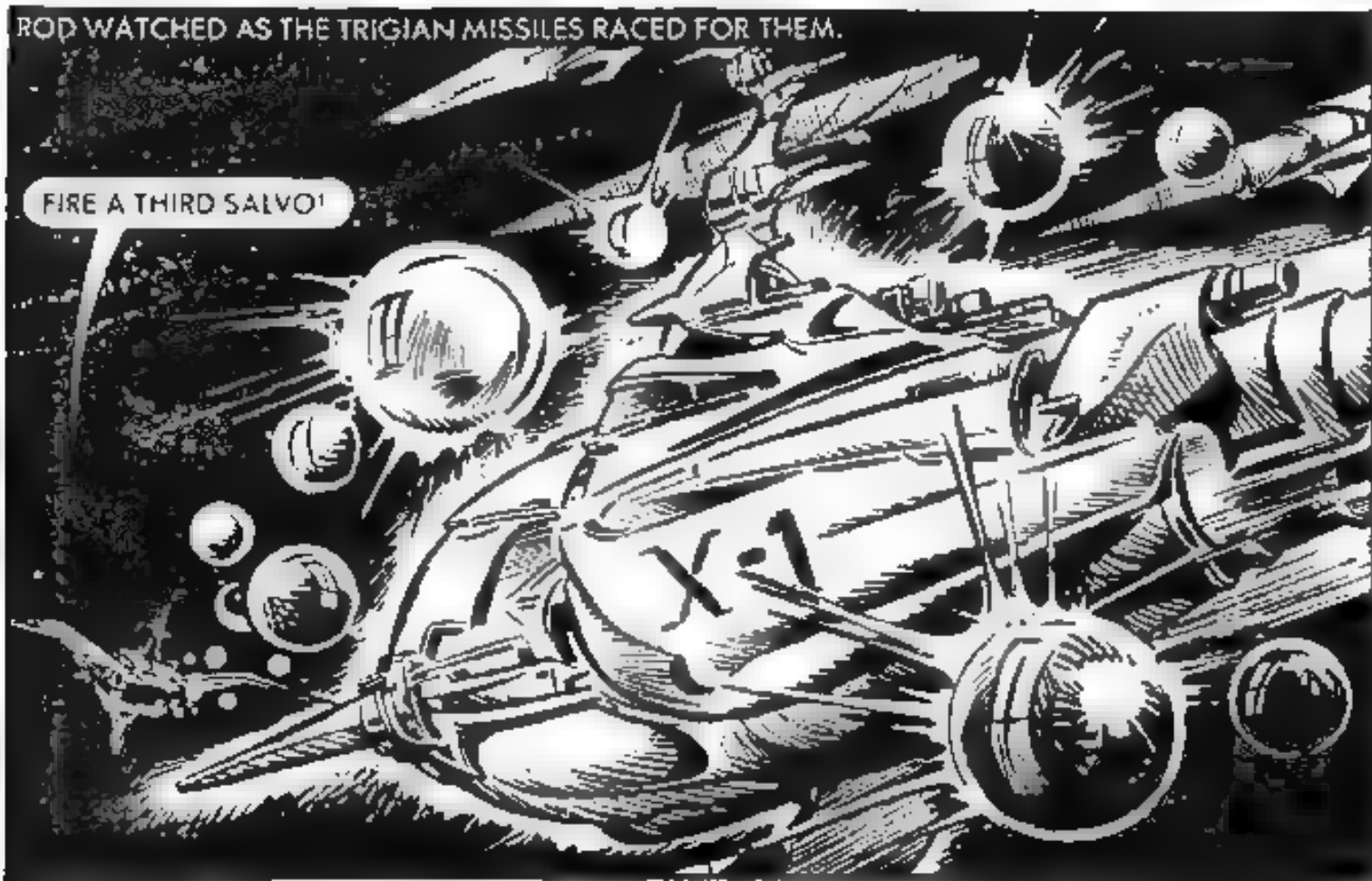
MOMENTS LATER, BARTIK SHOT AWAY FROM THE CRAFT IN AN ESCAPE SHUTTLE—

FIRE ANOTHER PULSE  
IMMEDIATELY!



ROD WATCHED AS THE TRIGIAN MISSILES RACED FOR THEM.

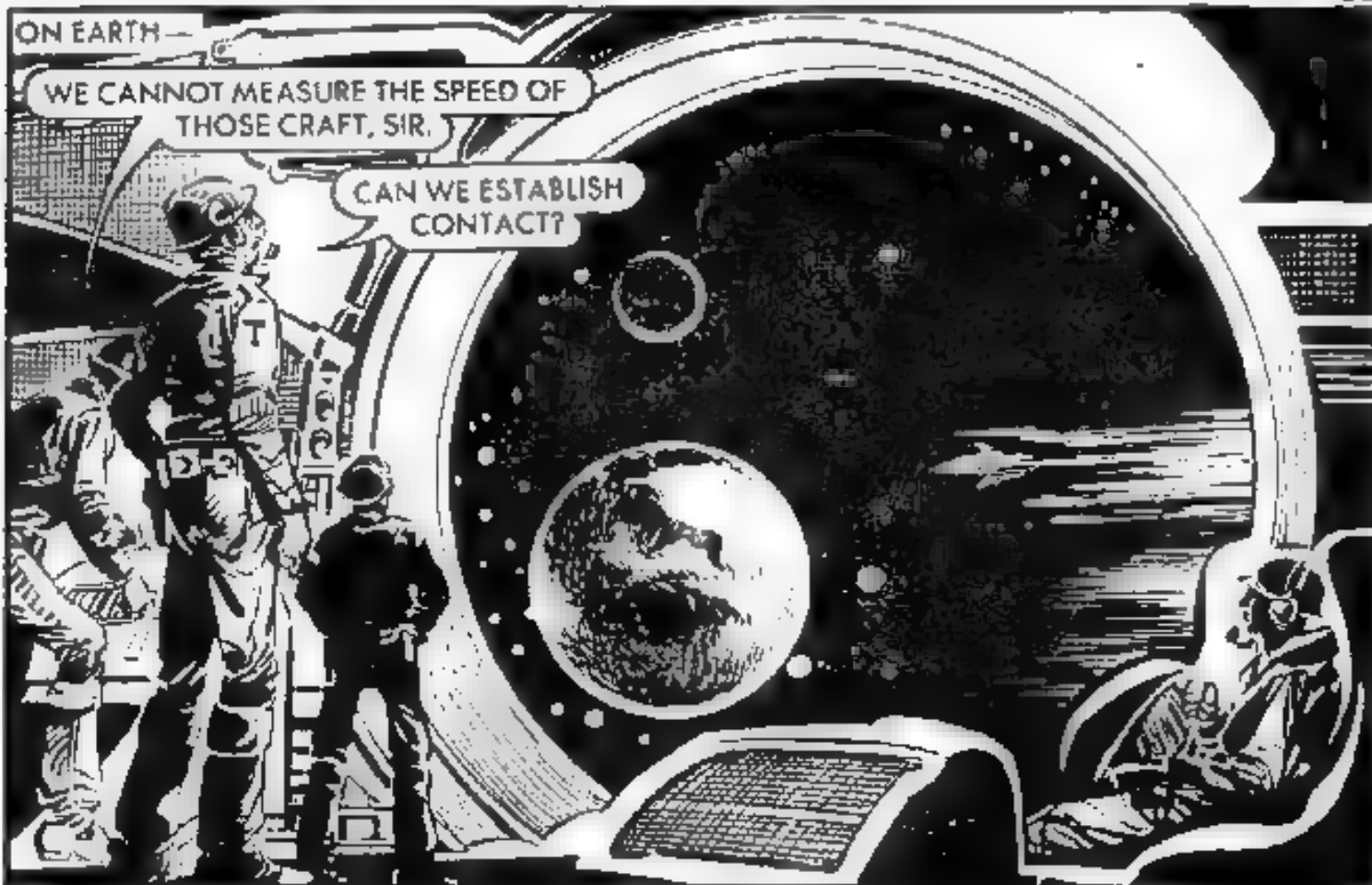
FIRE A THIRD SALVO!



BUT THE TRIGIANS' OWN MISSILES BROUGHT ABOUT THEIR DESTRUCTION. A FEW SCATTERED SECTIONS OF DEBRIS, A SPRINKLING OF RADIOACTIVE DUST... THAT WAS ALL THAT REMAINED OF THE PRIDE OF THE TRIGIANS.











YOU SEE? AND I'VE  
ONLY JUST STARTED!

NO GOOD EVEN TRYING AN APPEAL TO  
HIM TO STOP THIS MADNESS! I'VE GOT TO  
STAND HERE AND WATCH EARTH TORN TO  
PIECES.

IT WAS THE PLANET ITSELF THAT CAME TO THE RESCUE. THE TWO POLES ON WHICH TARA HAD LOCKED HIS BEAM, WERE MADE OF MILE-DEEP ICE. TRAPPED PHOTONS, MILLIONS OF MINUTE BASKETS OF ENERGY, ACTED IN MUCH THE SAME WAY AS THE DEFENCES ROUND TARA'S SHIPS.



AMPLIFIED MANY TIMES THE REFLECTED ENERGY PULSED BACK TOWARDS TARA'S SHIP.



IT CANNOT BE!

AS THE FIRST WAVE OF ENERGY STRUCK TARA'S SHIP—

HANK... HELP ME  
GRAB TARA!



BUT AS HE STEPPED FORWARD TO SEIZE TARA, ROD FELT A BRUTAL HEAT HIT THE SHIP.





HANK ... CUT ... BEAMS ... USE  
BUTTON ON ... CONTROLS ...



HANK'S CLOTHING BURNED, BUT HIS SILICON BODY REMAINED UNTOUCHED, EVEN  
WELCOMING THE SEARING HEAT.

QUICKLY ... QUICKLY ...





HANK ALSO LEAPT FOR THE FALLEN WEAPON.

I AM UNBEATABLE! I  
WILL RULE THE UNIVERSE ...



DIE, MONSTER!





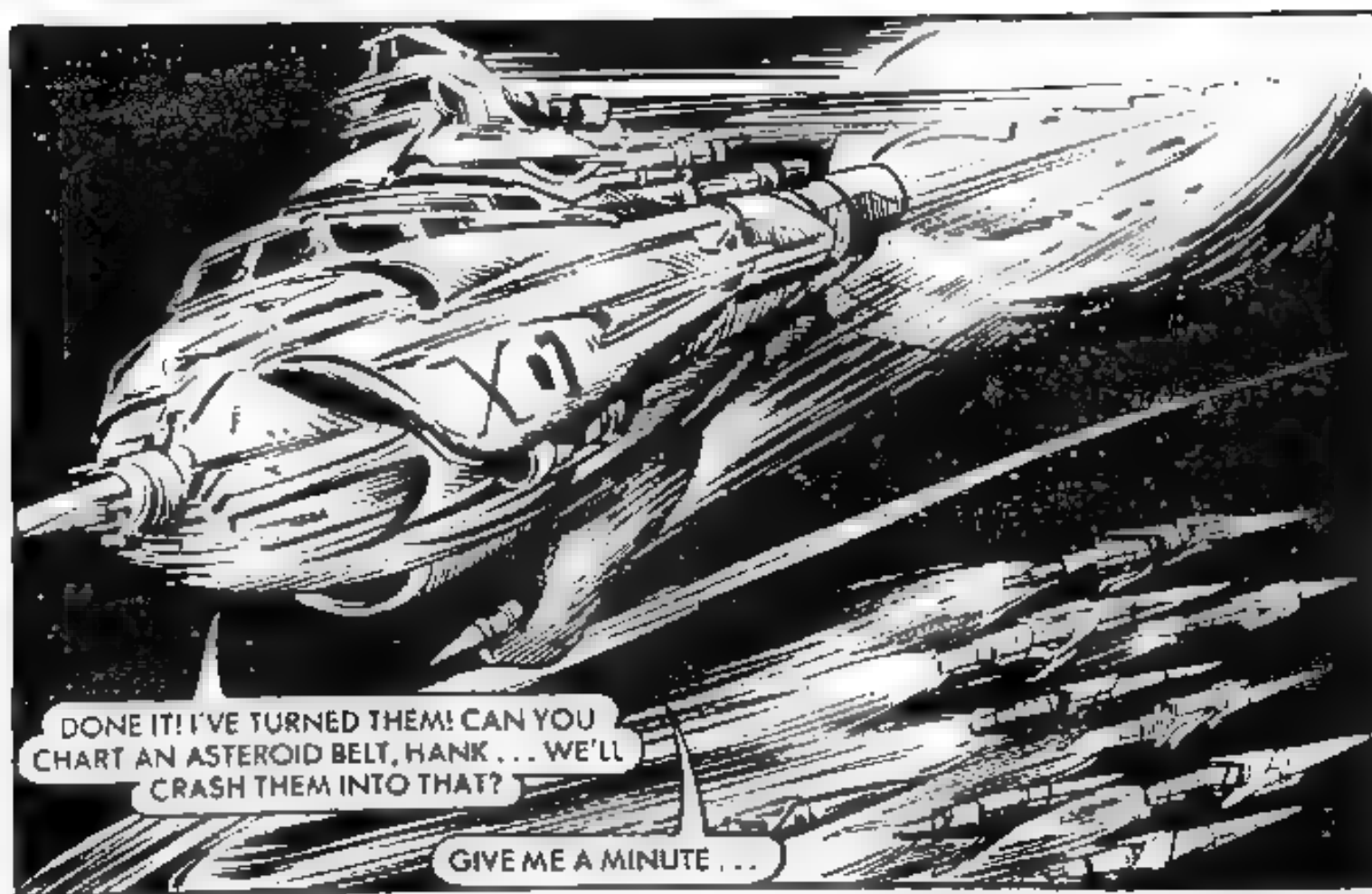
ROD RETURNED HIS ATTENTION TO THE CONTROLS.







THE FIRST TWO CONTROLS HAD NO EFFECT ON ANYTHING THEY COULD SEE, BUT ...



SOON...



THAT'S THE END OF  
TARA'S THREAT TO EARTH!

WE'D BETTER INFORM EARTH THAT  
THEY HAVE NOTHING MORE TO FEAR.



ROD INFORMED EARTH OF THE SITUATION.



I'VE BEEN WATCHING THAT OBJECT FOR SOME TIME. IT'S HEADED FOR EARTH!

I'LL TURN ON THE POWERSCOPE.

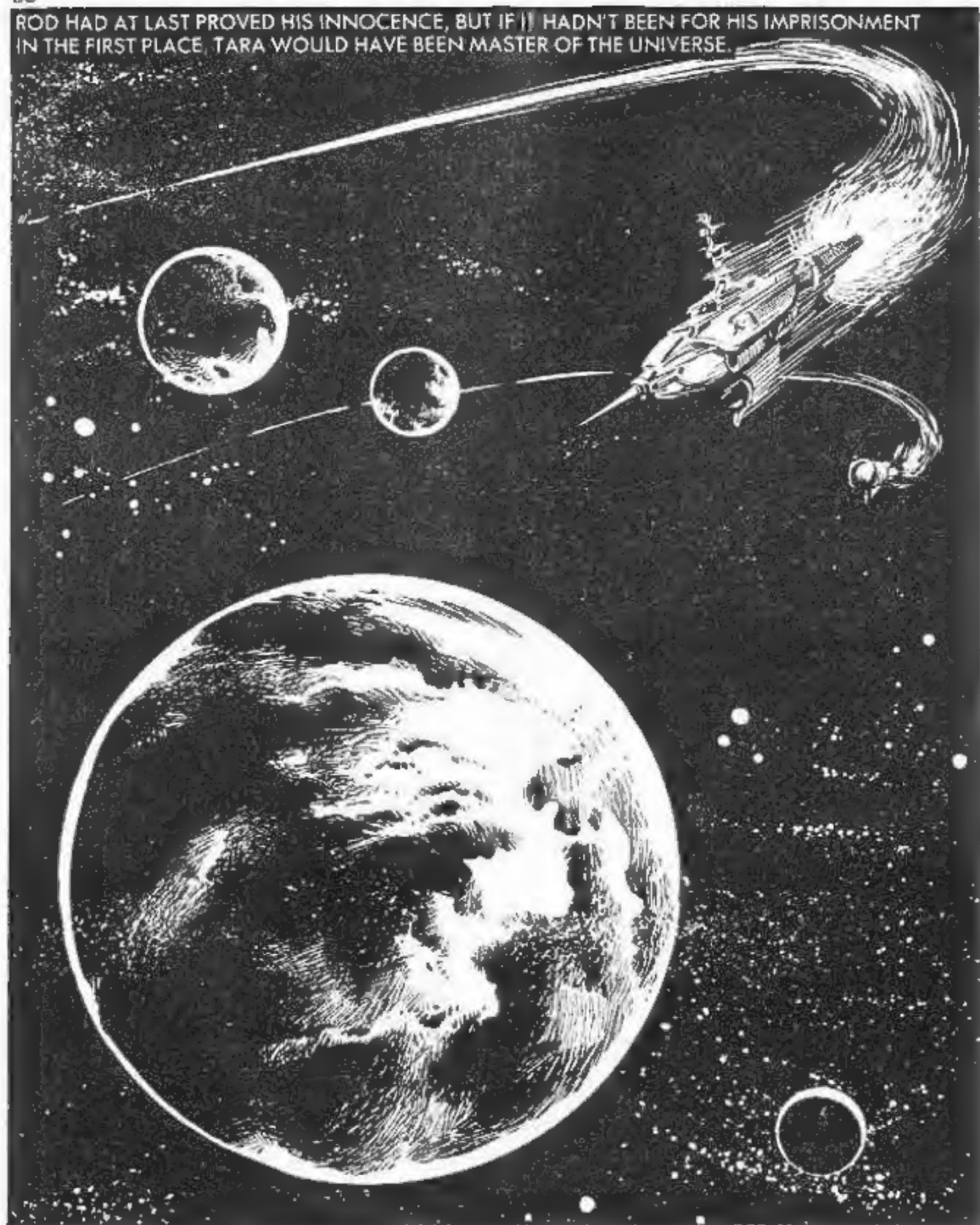








ROD HAD AT LAST PROVED HIS INNOCENCE, BUT IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR HIS IMPRISONMENT IN THE FIRST PLACE, TARA WOULD HAVE BEEN MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE.

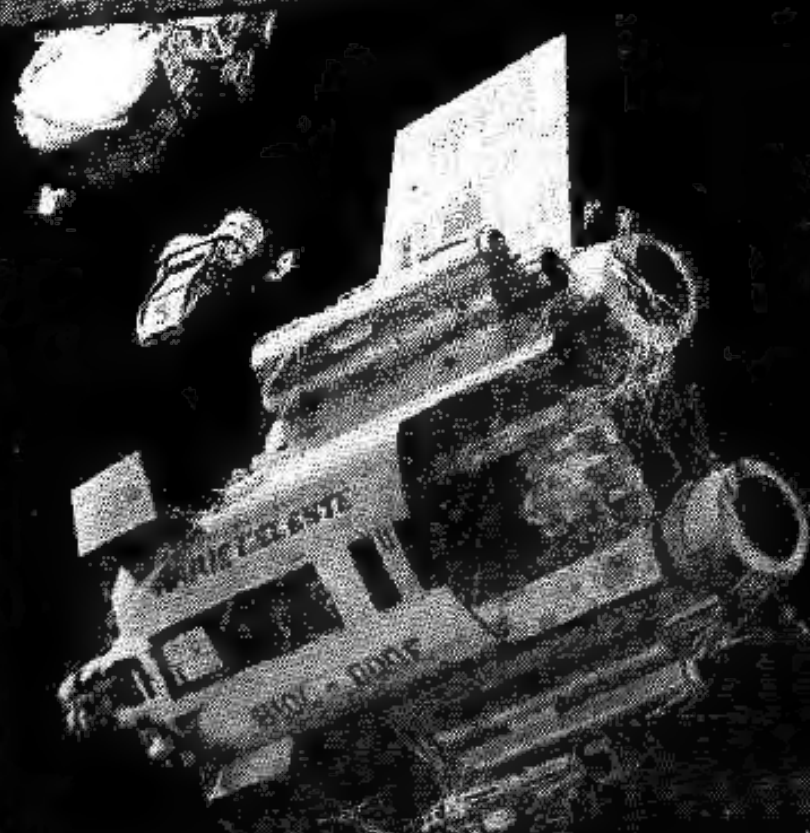


**DON'T  
MISS**

**THIS MONTH'S  
ACTION-PACKED  
ADVENTURE**

# **STARBLAZER**

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 111



## **SPACE GHOST!**

**NOW  
ON  
SALE**



# STARBLAZER'S

GUIDE TO THE SPACEMEN 13-15



The pilots of Voshkod 1 on October 12, 1964, were commander Col. Vladimir Nikailovich Komarov, 37, Konstantin Petrovich Feokistov, 38, an engineer, right, and a doctor, Boris Borisovich Yegerov, 27, left. The mission lasted 1 day 17 min. 3 sec. Feokistov and Yegerov are still in the space programme. Komarov was the pilot of Soyuz 1 when he met his death following a malfunction on April 24, 1967.